

**MINUTES
PARK COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 12, 2014
City Hall, Room 207
5:30 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Aldermen Jerry Wiezbiskie, Joseph Moore, Brian Danzinger, and James Warner

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dawne Cramer, Dan Ditscheit, Mark Freberg, Rick Jensen, and Ald. Tim De Wane

Approval of the minutes of the meeting of February 26, 2014

A motion was made by Ald. Moore and seconded by Ald. Warner to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2014, Park Committee meeting. Motion carried.

Adoption of the Agenda

A motion was made by Ald. Moore and seconded by Ald. Warner to adopt the agenda of the March 12, 2014, Park Committee meeting. Motion carried.

1. Discussion/Action on a request by Wisconsin Public Service for a utility easement in the Beaver Dam Creek Greenway near the intersection of Taylor Street and Burns Avenue

Staff referred to the map included in the Aldermen's packets. Wisconsin Public Service would like to replace the cast iron gas line and would like to proceed as soon as possible. Public Works and the Law Department reviewed the easement. Staff is recommending approval.

A motion was made by Ald. Moore and seconded by Ald. Warner to approve the request by Wisconsin Public Service for a utility easement in the Beaver Dam Creek Greenway near the intersection of Taylor Street and Burns Avenue. Motion carried.

2. Report of the Purchasing Manager:

A. Request approval to purchase a new 37' telescopic aerial lift truck for the Forestry Department from Equipment Technology LLC for \$86,517

Purchasing Manager Rick Jensen said the project went out for bid with four companies responding. Equipment Technology LLC is a new vendor; City staff did

an extensive analysis of their qualifications since they were the low bidder. Staff is recommending the purchase be awarded to Equipment Technology LLC.

Staff stated the new truck can be serviced in Milwaukee per the agreement.

Ald. Warner asked how the vendors came in with such different pricing for the exact same vehicle. Staff said the main difference is in the hydraulic lift system.

Mark Freberg said this company builds its own vehicle and therefore saves money.

A motion was made by Ald. Warner and seconded by Ald. Moore to approve the request to purchase a new 37' telescopic aerial lift truck for the Forestry Department from Equipment Technology LLC for \$86,517. Motion carried.

B. Request approval to purchase a new 16' rotary gang mower for the Parks Department from Horst Distributing for \$79,995

R. Jensen said this was put out for bid, and two were received. Both companies are vendors the City has dealt with before. Horst Distributing was the vendor with the lowest bid when combining the price of the mower with the cab.

Staff said this is the first time they've requested a cab to be included. This machine can then be used all year long as the blade can be removed, and a broom attachment can be added for snow removal on trails.

Ald. Moore asked if staff currently has a broom attachment or if that would go out for bid as well. Staff said the City has a few broom attachments but is not sure at this time if any would fit.

A motion was made by Ald. Warner and seconded by Ald. Moore to approve the request to purchase a new 16' rotary gang mower for the Parks Department from Horst Distributing for \$79,995. Motion carried.

C. Request approval to purchase a new 72" front mount riding mower for the Parks Department from Service Motor Co. for \$15,600

R. Jensen stated it was put out for bid; five bids were received. Staff recommends the award goes to the low bidder, Service Motor Co. The City has worked with this company before, purchased this brand of equipment in the past, and has been pleased with the purchases.

A motion was made by Ald. Moore and seconded by Ald. Warner to approve the request to purchase a new 72" front mount riding mower for the Parks Department from Service Motor Co. for \$15,600. Motion carried.

3. Discussion/Action on the review and approval of the Parks, Recreation, & Forestry Department 2014 Capital Improvements Plan

Staff referred the Committee to their copies of the master park project list, as well as the recommended 2014 Capital Improvements Plan for the Parks, Recreation, & Forestry Department. Staff reviewed the master park project list, which includes the following areas: parking lots, paving, trails, shelters, athletic fields, playground replacement, acquisitions, electrical, miscellaneous projects, and City Hall.

The master park project list outlines all of the current and proposed projects in the Parks Department. This list includes both funded and non-funded projects. There are currently 168 projects on this master list. Staff then outlined the proposed 2014 Capital Improvements Plan.

Requested Park Projects – Total Request \$855,000

- Athletic field renovations - \$100,000
- Shelter renovations - \$28,500
- Replace roof at Marquette Park Shelter - \$20,000
- Replace shelter at Astor Park - \$300,000
- Replace playground and add security lights at Eighth Street Park - \$60,000
- Relocate cul-de-sac and demolish house at East River Optimist Park - \$90,000
- East River Trail construction - \$75,000 (matching funds to a 2014 grant application)
- Pavement replacement - \$100,000
- Triangle Hill tow rope modifications - \$31,500
- Red Smith hockey lights - \$50,000

Requested City Hall Projects – Total Request \$45,000

- Human Resources testing room - \$2,750
- HVAC upgrade - \$29,750
- Exterior electrical work - \$12,500

Total Requested Park, Recreation, & Forestry 2014 CIP Funding - \$900,000

Discussion occurred in the area of shelter replacement. Staff stated that the Astor Shelter was constructed in 1936. The cost to construct a new shelter is \$300,000.

Ald. Moore stated that we may be able to secure some private funding towards the Astor Park shelter replacement.

Ald. Danzinger agreed that there may be some possibility for private funding and stated that there is a lot of interest by the Astor Park Neighborhood Association to get involved with this project. He expressed concern that building a new shelter at Astor Park uses a large amount of the total funding request.

After further discussion, it was decided to keep the Astor Shelter replacement in the CIP request, and if private funding is obtained, the City can reallocate the bonding dollars towards another project.

Additional discussion occurred on playground replacements.

Ald. Warner stated that Eighth Street Park has its challenges, and adding the playground and lighting is a big deal to this neighborhood. He thanked the Committee for their consideration of this project.

Ald. Wiezbiskie stated it is frustrating to have such a long list of pending projects. Staff agreed. We want to be able to provide updated amenities throughout the City, but this is the project list we are faced with.

Ald. Moore suggested moving the caulking of the City Hall windows up on the priority list. Staff stated we need to decide if it is worth caulking the existing windows or replacing them instead.

Ald. Wiezbiskie stated that the City Hall windows leak terribly and questioned if it would make sense to have some of the windows removed and blocked off. Staff stated we will need to have some of these conversations in the future.

Ald. Danzinger thanked staff for the well-prepared report. He also stated that we should provide additional information on the return of the investment for some of these projects in the future.

Ald. Wiezbiskie stated we need to encourage neighborhood associations to fundraise for park projects. Staff responded that we often work with these groups on various projects.

Ald. Tim De Wane questioned where the Joannes Park Shelter was in the priority list. Staff responded that it is not currently on the priority list.

Ald. Warner questioned how much a new shelter would cost at Eighth Street Park. Staff responded \$300,000.

A motion was made by Ald. Warner and seconded by Ald. Moore to approve the Parks, Recreation, & Forestry Department 2014 Capital Improvements Plan. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ald. Moore and seconded by Ald. Warner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.